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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 20 April 2012 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I regret to inform you that the situation of Palestinian political prisoners illegally imprisoned and detained by Israel, the occupying Power, continues to be grave, and the already deplorable conditions in which they are being held continue to deteriorate, owing to escalating Israeli violations of international humanitarian and human rights law.

On 17 April 2012, the day observed by the Palestinian people as "Prisoners' Day" in solidarity with thousands upon thousands of Palestinians held captive by Israel, more than 1,600 Palestinian prisoners and detainees began an open-ended hunger strike to protest against the inhumane, oppressive measures by the occupying Power that continue to deprive them of their basic human rights and to threaten their well-being, safety and lives. The 1,600 prisoners joined several Palestinian prisoners who have already been on prolonged hunger strike in protest of the illegal Israeli practice of administrative detention, by which the occupying Power continues to hold hundreds of Palestinians without charge or trial. Some of those detainees have now been on hunger strike for over 50 days, while others for over a month's time, and are in extremely fragile health. They include Thaer Halahla, Bilal Diab, Hassan Safadi, Omar Abu Shlal, Ahmed Sakar and others.

At this time, we must once again draw the international community's attention to the many oppressive measures and forms of physical and psychological abuse to which Palestinian prisoners and detainees are subjected by the occupying Power. This includes forcing them to live in unsanitary and unhygienic conditions; depriving them of their right to education and health care; denial of family visits; denial of access to legal help; solitary confinement; forced interrogations; humiliation; threats to themselves or their family members; and sleep deprivation, shackling to chairs and beds and forcing them to remain in painful, stress positions for long periods and other forms of torture. The hunger strikers are bravely aiming to call attention to all of these illegal, abusive Israeli practices along with the illegal

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practice of administrative detention and to urge the international community to take action to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to cease these deplorable practices and to release the thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and elected officials, that it is inhumanely holding in captivity in its prisons and detention centres, and to whose ranks Israel continues to add every single day with its ongoing arrest campaign.

We hold Israel, the occupying Power, fully responsible for the lives and well-being of all the Palestinian prisoners who have resorted to this peaceful, non-violent measure of protest against Israel's extreme abuses, and call on the international community to act urgently to address this issue in accordance with international law, including humanitarian law, specifically article 76 of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, which clearly defines the rights of protected persons faced with detention by an occupying Power.

Today, I am also compelled to inform you of acts of violence and terrorism that continued to be perpetrated by Israeli occupying forces and illegal Israeli settlers this past week against Palestinian civilians as well as international peace activists, and measures taken against the properties and homes belonging to Palestinian civilians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

In this connection, on Wednesday, 18 April 2012, Rinad Qudeih, aged 27, was hit in the head by gunfire by the Israeli occupying forces in the southern part of the besieged Gaza Strip. Ms. Qudeih was working in her family's field when she was shot in the head and was taken to a nearby hospital to treat her wounds. Also on 18 April, Israeli occupying forces continued with their unlawful evictions of Palestinians from their homes in the Occupied West Bank. Palestinian families, numbering 13 people, in Occupied East Jerusalem were evicted from their homes in the neighbourhood of Beit Hanina, to clear the way for illegal Jewish settlers to take over to build a new illegal settlement there with more than 100 settlement units. This unlawful takeover is reminiscent of what took place in nearby Sheikh Jarrah in Occupied East Jerusalem, where a handful of heavily protected Jewish settlers now live in the predominantly Palestinian community as part of a larger policy aimed at forcing out as many Palestinians as possible from the City, advancing the ethnic cleansing of the City's indigenous Palestinian inhabitants and thus its Judaization.

We call on Israel, the occupying Power, to respect international law and the demands of the international community to stop this illegal practice. And, we recall, in this regard, the recent statement by the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator, Maxwell Gaylard, who reaffirmed that "evictions of Palestinians from their homes and properties in Occupied Territory contravene international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention, and should cease".

Moreover, on Tuesday, 17 April 2012, a Palestinian man was seriously injured in the West Bank town of Al-Khalil (Hebron) after Jewish settlers invaded his home and assaulted him. He was rushed to the hospital with severe injuries. Such illegal actions by extremist Israeli settlers, which continue to intensify, are occurring in full view of the occupying forces, who continue to take no action to hold these settlers accountable and continue to provide them with impunity and protection while they are carrying out these crimes. We call on the international community to take urgent actions to end the unchecked rampage by settlers against the unprotected Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East

Jerusalem, and to guarantee the protections of international humanitarian law to our people.

In addition to the above, it is also important to note that more than 1,500 activists from all over the world had planned to take part in the "Welcome to Palestine" peaceful campaign to participate in humanitarian and voluntary work activities, including, inter alia, helping to build a school in Bethlehem and work on some agricultural activities alongside Palestinian farmers. Unfortunately, more than 60 per cent of them were barred from attending, through the unexplained cancellation of airline tickets or the refusal by the occupying Power of entry into the Occupied Palestinian Territory upon arrival at the airport. Of those activists that were able to participate in non-violent protests and demonstrations affiliated with the "Welcome to Palestine" peaceful campaign against illegal Israeli policies and practices, many were subjected to aggression and violence by the Israeli occupying forces. This includes the barbaric assault against a Danish national, Andreas Ias, aged 20, who was assaulted in the face by a senior Israeli military commander with an M-16 rifle during a peaceful bicycle ride to demonstrate against the limited access to resources in the Jordan Valley.

Such intimidation and assaults by the occupying Power on pro-peace activists are clearly aimed at discouraging principled activists around the world from coming to the Occupied Palestinian Territory to express their solidarity with the Palestinian people and to call for respect for the principles of justice and freedom as well as international laws and norms. This abusive Israeli treatment of international peaceful activists requires redress by the international community, which should defend peace activists as well as the principles of international humanitarian law that they strive to defend by peaceful and non-violent means.

All of the pressing issues addressed in this letter constitute further confirmation of the dire situation that prevails in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, requiring the international community's urgent attention. Israel, the occupying Power, must be held responsible for all of its illegal and provocative actions. The international community, particularly the Security Council, cannot continue to stand idly by as the occupying Power perpetrates its criminal and inhumane treatment of Palestinian prisoners and detainees. Serious and timely efforts are needed to uphold the legal obligation to protect the Palestinian people under occupation, including the prisoners and detainees, to enforce the law and to salvage the chances of achieving peace and security.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 423 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 9 April 2012 (A/ES-10/551-S/2012/202) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/553–S/2012/263

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Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 25 April 2012 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues its illegal schemes and actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly those aimed at entrenching its massive network of illegal settlements and so-called settlement "outposts" in the Territory that it has belligerently occupied since 1967.

The intensified construction of all such Israeli settlement activities on occupied Palestinian land is glaring proof of the unlawful, expansionist aims of the occupying Power and belies all claims regarding acceptance of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders. In particular, the Israeli Government's actions directly contradict and belie Prime Minister Netanyahu's own declaration in his June 2009 "Bar Ilan" speech that "We have no intention to build new settlements or set aside land for new settlements." The reality on the ground speaks much louder than such rhetoric and propaganda by the occupying Power.

Ironically, illegal settlement activities were even being undertaken at the very same time that Member States were addressing the Security Council and reaffirming the illegality of Israel's settlement campaign and the demands for a complete cessation of all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Indeed, on 23 April, simultaneously with the Council debate in which Palestine again confirmed its commitment to peace and negotiations for achieving the two-State solution, the occupying Power was instead engaged in deceitful efforts aimed at entrenching three illegal settlement outposts on occupied Palestinian land.

Such duplicitous efforts, spearheaded by the Israeli Prime Minister himself, involved the "granting of formal status" by a ministerial committee to the settlement outposts of "Bruchin" and "Rechelim", and "Sansana" in the northern Occupied West Bank. A statement issued by the Prime Minister's office announced: "The panel decided to formalize the status of the three communities ... which were established in the 1990s following the decisions of past Governments."

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In this regard, Palestine wishes to recall the following:

1. All Israeli settlements established in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, are illegal under international law. Regardless of whether they are called "settlements", "outposts" or "communities", article 49 (6) of the Fourth Geneva Convention explicitly prohibits the transfer by the occupying Power of its own civilians into the territory that it occupies. Moreover, Israel's deliberate and systematic colonization of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, constitutes a war crime under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

2. The illegality of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, has been repeatedly declared so by, inter alia, the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council in countless resolutions and by the International Court of Justice in its advisory opinion of July 2004. Those resolutions remain wholly valid, as does the Court's advisory opinion, and we continue to call for their full respect and implementation.

3. The Quartet Roadmap, endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003), specifically calls on Israel to freeze all of its settlement activities, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001. This call for a freeze of Israeli settlement activities has been made repeatedly by the Quartet members, collectively and individually. And yet, Israel, the occupying Power, continues to maliciously and directly ignore and violate this international obligation and commitment.

4. In accordance with the provisions of international humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention, as well as with the provisions of relevant United Nations resolutions and the Roadmap, the cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, is thus a legal obligation incumbent upon Israel, the occupying Power, and not in any way a so-called "precondition" or compromise to be met by Israel. The law cannot continue to be selectively applied in this case. Israel's continued breaching of the law is not only gravely threatening the attainability and viability of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders, but also destroying the rule of law and the credibility of the international system, including the Security Council, in upholding that law.

The international consensus stands that Israel's illegal settlement activities constitute the main obstacle to peace. The expansion of settlements, the entrenchment of outposts, the construction of the Wall, the confiscation of Palestinian land, the displacement of Palestinian civilians — including 67 refugees, more than half of them children, in this past week alone — and the provision of unconditional support to Israeli settlers, who continue to steal Palestinian land and property and to terrorize the Palestinian people, are hardly hallmarks of a Government committed to securing a just and lasting peace and to the two-State solution as the means for achieving it. Instead, they call into serious question the veracity of Israeli claims regarding the peace process and its eligibility as a partner for peace.

We call on the Security Council to act immediately to address these continuing illegal, grave actions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian

Territory, including East Jerusalem. Israel's illegal settlement campaign is destroying the contiguity, integrity and viability of the Palestinian Territory and physically destroying, inch by inch, the attainability of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders. It is incumbent upon the international community to uphold the law and salvage the prospects for achieving a just and sustainable peace on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Madrid principles, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet Roadmap. The window of opportunity is rapidly closing, requiring resolute and urgent action.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 424 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 20 April 2012 (A/ES-10/552-S/2012/248), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations A/ES-10/554–S/2012/297

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 4 May 2012 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, continues to deteriorate and tensions continue to rise as a result of provocations and illegal actions by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people. Of grave concern in particular at this time is the precarious condition of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and detention centres, among whom thousands have been on prolonged hunger strike.

As we informed in earlier letters, thousands of Palestinians joined a massive prisoner strike that was launched on 17 April, which is commemorated annually by Palestinians as a day of solidarity with our prisoners held captive in Israeli jails and detention centres. Currently, thousands of Palestinian prisoners are partaking in this non-violent, peaceful protest of the deplorable conditions under which they are being held by the occupying Power. They are protesting Israel's malicious treatment of Palestinian civilians arrested and detained, including the practice of "administrative detention", by which more than 300 Palestinians are being held without charge and without trial, some of them for many years now. They are also protesting, among other practices, Israel's inhumane imposition of solitary confinement, severe restrictions on family visitation to the prisoners and restrictions on access to education.

The lives of several of the Palestinian prisoners who have been on hunger strike for the past 59 to 67 days are now at risk. A total of 10 prisoners at the "Ramleh prison" are experiencing serious health conditions requiring medical care and have been transferred to the prison hospital, with two of them — Bilal Diab, age 27, from the Jenin area, and Thaer Halahla, age 33, from Al-Khalil (Hebron) area — in grave condition. Both Diab and Halahla, who are being held under administrative detention by Israel without any charge, have been on hunger strike since 29 February and are suffering from life-threatening conditions, including severe weight loss, nerve damage, dehydration, decreased muscle tone and low blood pressure, as they continue appealing for their release.

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Regrettably, Israel has yet to respond to the prisoners' long-standing calls to cease its unlawful practices and in particular to cease the use of administrative detention to hold Palestinian civilians captive. In addition, Israel continues daily to arrest Palestinians throughout the West Bank, including dozens of arrests in East Jerusalem, adding to the thousands already in its prisons, in grave violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law. Estimates are that more than 2,000 Palestinians have been arrested by the occupying Power since the "prisoner exchange" in October 2011 alone, including some of those released in that exchange. The Israeli occupying forces also continue to use excessive force against the Palestinian people protesting this inhumane policy, attacking one group of student demonstrators this week near the "Ofer" detention centre with tear gas canisters and rubber bullets, injuring at least 20 Palestinians.

Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable for its ill treatment and violation of the thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, imprisoned in its jails and detention centres. Israel is responsible for the well-being of those prisoners, including the 2,000 on hunger strike. Israel, the occupying Power, cannot be allowed to remain immune from the provisions of international humanitarian and human rights law governing such situations. The international community, including the Security Council, has a clear responsibility to hold Israel accountable for the deliberate and systematic breaches of its legal obligations in this regard. If the occupying Power continues to reject the demands for respect of international law, then measures must be undertaken in response, aimed at ensuring an end to the violations and ensuring that the rule of law prevails.

In this regard, we must also draw your attention to the continuing calls by the Palestinian people and their leadership for accountability by Israel, the occupying Power, for the crimes committed against our people in the Gaza Strip, in particular during the December 2008-January 2009 Israeli military aggression. In particular, we are compelled to underscore our outrage at the recent decision by Israel to close without any charges a military investigation of those responsible for the killing of 21 members of one Palestinian family, the Samouni family, who were slaughtered by the Israeli occupying forces on 5 January 2009.

Here, it must be recalled that, on 4 January, the Samouni family members were ordered by Israeli commanders to leave their three-storey home, which was overtaken by the occupying forces as an outpost, and were directed to shelter in a home across the road in Al-Zeitoun neighbourhood of Gaza City. The following day an Israeli commander ordered an aerial strike of the home in which the family, including infants, children, women, men and elderly, was known to be sheltering. That Israeli attack killed 21 members of the Samouni family, including three babies and six children, and at least 40 other people were wounded, some surviving for three days amidst the corpses and rubble of the destroyed home until the occupying forces finally allowed emergency medical services to access the home. In this regard, it must also be recalled that this crime was detailed in the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict (the Goldstone report) and is among the many crimes committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people, for which justice remains elusive.

It is deplorable and absolutely unacceptable that such a deliberate massacre of innocent civilians is perpetrated and no one is held responsible for such criminal actions, which clearly constitute war crimes. We continue to demand that the perpetrators of this heinous crime be held accountable. The dismissal of this case without any prosecutions for the crimes committed is further proof of the

inadequacy of the occupying Power's investigations, carried out by the military itself, which has repeatedly absolved itself of any responsibility for illegal actions, serving simultaneously as the criminal, judge and jury. The international community has a clear responsibility in this regard, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions, to undertake serious follow-up of this matter to bring an end to such repugnant Israeli impunity. This requires action to ensure accountability for the crimes perpetrated during the Israeli military aggression against the Gaza Strip in 2008-2009 and to ultimately ensure justice for the victims.

In closing, I regret to also have to bring to your attention the critical issue of Israel's ongoing illegal settlement campaign throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Tensions continue to rise as Israel continues to construct settlements and the Wall, to allow extremist settlers to continue their rampage against Palestinian civilians and properties, and to repeatedly brazenly pronounce its plans to continue this illegal and destructive campaign, proving in word and deed its selection of colonization over the path of peace. Just this week, Israel declared once again intentions to continue illegally colonizing Occupied East Jerusalem as it announced, on 1 May, the decision to move forward with the construction of nine hotels, consisting of 1,100 units, in the planned illegal settlement of "Givat Hamatos" in the south-eastern part of the City. Such provocative and illegal actions are further proof of Israel's efforts to continue the land grab, to continue its expansionist agenda and to continue creating as many illegal facts as possible on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in total contradiction to the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders. Indeed, the two-State solution is being obliterated by such illegal acts of colonization.

We thus renew our call on the international community, and particularly the Security Council, to act forthwith to uphold their duties and the relevant provisions of international law. Serious collective measures must be undertaken to hold Israel accountable for these ongoing violations of international law, United Nations resolutions and its road map obligations and to demand that the occupying Power immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem.

The present letter is in follow-up to our previous 425 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 25 April 2012 (A/ES-10/553-S/2012/263), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 9 May 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

It is with grave concern that I write to you in follow-up to our letter of 4 May 2012, regarding the precarious condition of Palestinian prisoners and detainees being held by Israel, the occupying Power. Thousands of Palestinian prisoners and detainees remain on a prolonged hunger strike, the majority having begun their strike on 17 April 2012, in an expression of collective non-violent protest against the abusive treatment and deplorable conditions they are being subjected to in Israel's jails and detention centres.

Of immediate concern at this time is the rapidly deteriorating condition of six Palestinians who have been on hunger strike for between 48 and 72 days in protest of their captivity by Israel, the occupying Power, under administrative detention, whereby they are being held without charge and without access to due process of the law or fair trial. Yesterday, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), whose medical staff has visited the detainees, issued a statement regarding this critical matter, stressing that those six detainees are "in imminent danger of dying".

The health of two detainees — Bilal Diab, age 27, and Thaer Halahla, age 33 — is of particularly grave concern as they have been without food for 72 days now, since 29 February 2012, and continue their hunger strike following Israel's Supreme Court's rejection of their appeals to end their unlawful detention. In addition to such an unjust ruling, Israel, the occupying Power, continues to inhumanely prevent the transfer of the detainees to proper medical facilities and to prevent family visits to the detainees, despite their fragile health conditions and the urgency of such visits to the detainees at this time. Here, we echo the 8 May 2012 call by ICRC for Israel to immediately transfer all six detainees, whose lives are in danger, to a hospital where they can receive specialized medical and nursing care, as well as the call to allow the detainees to receive visits from their families because, as noted by ICRC, "in

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such extreme circumstances, allowing contact with family members becomes an imperative humanitarian need".

We reiterate our condemnation of Israel's illegal practice of arbitrarily detaining Palestinian civilians, without charge, without revelation of evidence against them and without trial. At least 308 Palestinians are currently being held under such circumstances, including two persons held now for more than four and a half years. As noted earlier, since 1967, an estimated 750,000 Palestinians, including 23,000 women and 25,000 children, have been held in detention by the occupying Power.

At this critical juncture, we reiterate our call on the international community, including the Security Council, the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies, to act urgently to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its illegal practice of administrative detention, to cease its human rights violations and affronts to the human dignity of the Palestinians held in its prisons and detention centres, and to act forthwith to release all Palestinians it is unlawfully incarcerating. This crisis requires immediate action by the international community in line with obligations under international law, including the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War. In this regard, we draw attention to the current efforts of other international bodies, including the League of Arab States and the Non-Aligned Movement, who are seized of the matter and have recently issued calls for urgent action to save the lives of the detainees whose lives are in grave risk and to compel Israel's compliance with the relevant provisions of international law.

We reiterate that Israel, the occupying Power, is fully responsible for the well-being, safety and lives of the thousands of Palestinians in its captivity, including the two thousand who are on hunger strike. Israel cannot be allowed to remain immune from the provisions of international law governing foreign occupation. The international community is duty-bound to ensure that the occupying Power complies with all its legal obligations regarding its treatment of all Palestinian prisoners and detainees it is holding, including children. Here, we stress the justness of the demands of the Palestinian prisoners and detainees, who are only demanding basic rights, enshrined and guaranteed to them under international law.

Tensions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, are markedly rising due to the gravity of this issue and its continued non-resolution. Daily demonstrations are taking place throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory in solidarity with the hunger striking prisoners, detainees and their families, with growing calls for a just resolution of their plight. People's lives are at stake, as is the looming possibility for greater instability in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. This situation is seriously endangering the search for peace and security, and thus the responsibility of the international community, including the Security Council, to act to address this crisis is clear.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 426 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 4 May 2012 (A/ES-10/554-S/2012/297) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people,

Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Feda **Abdelhady-Nasser**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.